



Ashby Woulds  
Urban District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the Year 1953.

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BY  
A. W. McM. SEGERDAL,  
M.D., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
and  
G. O. MARCH,  
A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.  
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.





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Medical Officer of Health :

A. MCM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

G. O. MARCH, A.R. SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk to the Council :

MR. E. R. CRAWSHAW.

Chairman of the Council :

ALDERMAN E. W. TANDY, J.P., C.C.

Chairman Public Health Committee :

COUNCILLOR F. YATES, C.C.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby Woulds  
Urban District Council :—*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1953.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population has increased slightly from 3,304 in 1952, to 3,368 in 1953.

The birth rate (19.6) is higher than last year (17.3) and higher than that for England and Wales (15.5).

The death rate (12.5) is higher than last year (8.5) and higher than that for England and Wales (11.4).

It will be noted that the birth and death rate are adjusted for comparison with England and Wales.

The chief causes of death were in disease associated with elderly people.

It will be noted again that the water supply is intermittent.

35 Houses were completed during the year making a total of 219 houses completed in the post war period.

The total number of applicants for Council Houses is 390, and the number of applications for Council Houses received during the year was 30.

Extensive damage is being caused by mining subsidence in the district particularly to sewers, water mains and houses. Great difficulty is being experienced in keeping the sewers running, particularly in the low parts of the area.

45 Cases of infectious diseases were notified of which 37 were Measles and 7 Scarlet Fever. There were 4 deaths from Pneumonia although none were notified.

I am pleased to say that for the seventh year in succession no cases of Diphtheria was notified.

The number of children receiving Immunisation against Diphtheria still remains low, and as I have mentioned before unless this figure is increased we shall have a dangerously high percentage of the school population unprotected against Diphtheria.

Only one new case of Tuberculosis was notified during the year, and there were no deaths.

I should like to thank the staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council for their help and co-operation. I wish to express my thanks to Mr. G. O. March, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A., Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable assistance.

Finally I wish to thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,

Medical Officer of Health

## SECTION A.

### GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	... ..	2,399 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	...	3,368
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1953	...	1,070
Rateable Value	... ..	£18,745
Sum represented by a penny rate	... ..	£70
Comparability factor	... ..	Deaths 1.14
		Births 1.08

The chief industries of the District are : Engineering, Agriculture, Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking. No industry was noted as having an injurious effect on the health of the District. The District being on the Leics.-Derbys. Coalfield is seriously affected by mining subsidence which is causing damage to numerous properties, roads, sewers and water mains.

There are three recreation grounds with an acreage of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  acres in the Urban District.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	30	28	58
Illegitimate	2	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	32	29	61

Crude Birth Rate—18.1 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Birth Rate—19.6 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate—15.5 per 1,000 population.

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births—Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2	1	3

Crude Stillbirth Rate—.88 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Stillbirth Rate—.95 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Stillbirth Rate—0.35 per 1,000 population.

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths.	23	14	37

Crude Death Rate—10.9 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Death Rate—12.5 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate—11.4 per 1,000 population.

## Causes of Death during 1953.

	Male	Female	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ... ..	3	2	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	2	6
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	3	0	3
Other heart diseases ... ..	4	4	8
Other circulatory diseases ...	1	1	2
Influenza ... ..	0	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	3	1	4
Bronchitis ... ..	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle accident ... ..	1	1	2
All other accidents ... ..	1	0	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	23	14	37

Death Rate from total maternal causes per 1,000 births (Live and Still)—0.

Ditto England and Wales—76

Death of Infants under 1 year of age :—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	0	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	0	3

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births 49·3.

Ditto England and Wales —26·8.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	0	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	2	0	2

Chief causes of Death during 1953.

Disease of Heart and Circulation 19, Cancer 5.



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

All hospitals except a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. The County Homes for the aged and infirm are under the auspices of the County Council. When the residents take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

#### TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. The Ante-natal Clinics are held at Bridge Road, Coalville and the Tuberculosis Clinic at Markfield Sanatorium under the Regional Hospital Board.

#### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The County Council is responsible for all ambulance facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

#### NURSING IN THE HOME.

All district Nursing and Midwifery is under the County Council.

#### HEALTH VISITING.

This work is provided by the County Council, and is very ably carried out in the area. A Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visit the patients in their homes.

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory at Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester.

Misc.	1
	—
Total	1

Generally there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and Hospital Boards, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER SUPPLY.

The district is supplied in bulk supply from Swadlincote and Ashby's Joint Water, except for a few outlying properties which obtain their water from wells.

In quality the water has been satisfactory but has been cut off from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. daily over a period of several months during the summer and autumn, and there is poor pressure in the higher districts.

### SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

There are only 5 Cesspools in the area, and no extensions of sewers or new works were carried out during the year.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The total number in District on 31st December, 1953.

(1) Privies 5 (2) Pail Closets 37 (3) W.C.'s 1,038.

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year. (a) Privies 2 (b) Pail 2

A grant is made towards the cost of conversion.

Number of privies (Middens) converted to pail closets during the year 2

Earth closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools are emptied at frequent intervals by the Council's workmen. The contents of cesspools and nightsoil is carted to the sewage disposal works.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The whole district is covered by weekly collection of house refuse, and conveyed by covered lorry to two tips one controlled, and one crude.

### SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

- (a) Total number of complaints received 54
  - (b) Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with. 54
  - (c) Total number of nuisances or defects dealt with in (b) 53
- Inspections Made.

	Number of Inspections.
Bakehouses ... ..	10
Drainage Works ... ..	113
Dwelling Houses (all purpose) ... ..	267
Food Premises ... ..	34
Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..	11
Rodent Control ... ..	22
Schools ... ..	1
Shops ... ..	10
Slaughter Houses and Meat Inspection	10
Smoke Observation ... ..	2
Verminous and Dirty Premises ... ..	8
Water supplies ... ..	46
Workshops, Outworkers, etc. ....	6
Other inspections ... ..	25
Total	565

## NOTICES.

Preliminary	Housing	Public Health
Issued during year	1	40
Complied with during year	1	34
Statutory action necessary	1	0
Outstanding 31st December	0	6

Statutory	Housing	Public Health
Issued during year ...	1	0
Complied with during year	1	0

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

One Council house was found to be infested, and was disinfested by Local Authority.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Council Refuse Tips and Sewage Works under permanent treatment with Warfarin 1.

Private premises treated as necessary.

## SECTION D.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### ICE - CREAM.

Number of premises registered :

(a) Manufacture and Retail	...	Nil
(b) Manufacture only	...	Nil
(c) Retail only	...	3

Premises generally satisfactory for sale of pre-packed Ice Cream only.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

Dairies and distributors.

No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.
Dairies Nil	Nil
Distributors 7	Nil

The following are details of samples of milk taken in the district during 1953 for biological examination :

6 Samples taken—all negative to Myco. Tuberculosis and Brucella Abortus.

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :

(a) Dealers Licences	Pasteurised Nil	Sterilised Nil
(b) Supplementary Licences	Pasteurised 3	Sterilised Nil

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :

(a) Dealers Licences	Nil
(b) Supplementary Licences	5

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

All slaughtering is done at the Regional Slaughter House.

### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total weight in lbs.
Number Inspected	3	8	1	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned (all diseases except Tuberculosis)	3	8	1	254 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs
3 Tins of Meat—4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.				

### MEAT STALLS

No. of inspections	...	...	...	Nil
Meat Shops, Meat Stores etc., No. of inspections				15
Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale.				
No. of Inspections	...	...	...	14
One notice to remove trade refuse.				
One notice for general cleanliness (Bakehouse).				

## SECTION E.

### HOUSING.

Houses completed during the year :

	Prefabricated Permanent	Permanent
By Local Authority	...	31
By Private Enterprise	...	Nil
		4

Houses in course of erection at end of year :

By Local Authority	...	Nil
By Private Enterprise	...	Nil
		8

Total Number of Post War Houses completed by

(a) Local Authority 212

(b) Private Enterprise 7

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year :  
390.

Number of applications received during year : 30

The Council Housing Scheme has been held up through lack of safe building land within their area as the majority of of land is affected by mining subsidence.

#### INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects : 19

Number of Inspections made for the purpose : 44

Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation : ... .. 19

#### REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING YEAR WITHOUT SERVING FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... .. 17

#### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. 1

Repairs carried out by owners ... .. 1

#### HOUSING SUMMARY

Total number of occupied houses in district ... 1070

Total number of Council houses occupied in district 350

#### HOUSING ACT 1949

Number of applications for reconditioning grants ... 1

Extensive damage is being caused by mining subsidence in the District particularly to sewers, water mains and houses. Great difficulty is being experienced in keeping the sewers running, particularly in the low parts of the area.

## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious Diseases (other than tuberculosis)  
during 1953.

Disease	Final numbers after correction	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Whooping Cough ...	1	0	0
Measles ...	37	0	0
Pneumonia ...	0	0	4
Scarlet Fever ...	7	1	0
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0
	<hr/> 45	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 4

### ANALYSIS UNDER AGE GROUPS ACCORDING TO REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN 118d.

Age Groups	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever
Under 1 ...	0	1	0
1—2 ...	0	2	0
3—4 ...	1	12	0
5—9 ...	0	21	5
10—14 ...	0	1	2
15—24 ...	0	0	0
25 and over ...	0	0	0
Age unknown ...	0	0	0
	<hr/> Total	<hr/> 37	<hr/> 7

Age Groups	Erysipelas
Under 5	0
5—14	0
15—44	0
45—64	0
65 & over	0
	<hr/> Total
	0

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Number of children who were immunised during  
the period of 1st January to 31st December, 1953.

Age at 31.12.53 i.e., Born in Year	Under 1 yr 1953	1 1952	2 1951	3 1950	4 1949	5 1948	6 1947	7 1946	8 1945	9 1944	10 1943	11 1942
Primary Immunisation	0	22	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Booster Injection	0	0	0	0	1	8	6	2	2	0	1	1

Total: Primary Immunisation 29.    Booster Injection 21.

Statement of particulars appearing in  
the Tuberculosis Register for the year  
ending 31st December, 1953.

	MALES		FEMALES		
	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non. Pul.</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non. Pul.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of Cases on Register at the commencement of year	1	4	3	2	10
Number of Cases notified for the first time during the year ... ..	0	0	1	0	1
Number of Cases added to Register other than by formal notification ...	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Cases restored to Register ...	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Cases removed from the Register during the year ... ..	0	1	2	1	4
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year ... ..	1	3	2	1	7

CAUSES OF REMOVAL.

	MALES		FEMALES		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	
Cured	0	1	2	1	4
Left County	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	2	1	4

There is a free co-operation between local authority and the Chest Physician, and every assistance is given in the ascertainment of contacts, rehousing or in employment.

A special clinic for contacts has been working very satisfactory, and general practitioners have availed themselves fully of X-ray facilities.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

Resumé of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year, 1953, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

### *PART I OF THE ACT*

#### 1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.)

Premises	Number on Register	Inspection	Written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	0
Factories not included in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	14	10	2
	—	—	—
Total ...	15	11	2

#### 2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2
Total	2	2

### *PART VIII OF THE ACT*

#### *Outwork (Sections 110 and 111). Section 110.*

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August last required by Section 110 (1) (c) (3)
Wearing apparel making, etc.	1









